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To The
Chairman
of the
Banwford Urban District Council

Dear Sir

I have pleasure in submitting to you my Annual return of the health of the district

During the year 1898 there have been 88 deaths registered 42 males and 46 females this gives an annual death rate of 15.4 per 1000 against 14 per 1000 last year and 13.3 per 1000 the previous year. There were 25 deaths in children under one year giving an infant mortality of 4.3 per 1000.

The births registered were 141. 68 boys & 73 girls giving an annual birth rate of 24.7 per 1000.

The rate of infant deaths to 1000 births = 177

Zymotic rate 2.6 against 1.4 last year.

Death rate from Phthisis .87 and Respiratory Diseases 4.3 per 1000.

There was one death from Suicide two from accident, one from Measles, one from Diarrhoea, and one from Premature Birth.

Of infectious diseases there were 113 cases notified against 9 cases last year. This I may state has been the greatest number of cases ever notified in a year, since the act came in force in this District.

The cases are as follows

Scarlet Fever	96 cases	7	deaths
Diphtheria	5 "	4	"
Erysipelas	10 "	—	—
Typhoid Fever	1 "	—	—
Membranous Croup	1 "	1	—

There has also been a severe epidemic of measles, I should say at least 160 cases, but as it is not notifiable I cannot give you the exact number.

The Scarlet Fever has been of a very severe type, most of the cases having bad throat complications, it attacking persons from 40 years of age downwards.

In consequence of these epidemics I ordered on the 2nd day of September the Schools and Sunday Schools to remain closed until the 19th day of September, but I regret to state. that all the Sunday Schools with the exception of the Wesleyan & Roman Catholic's were opened prior to the latter date.

There had not been a single case of Scarlet Fever or Measles reported to me for 18 days previous to the opening of the Schools but since they have been opened 54 cases of Scarlet Fever have been reported. Every possible measure has been taken by the Sanitary authority to prevent the spread of infection. by thoroughly disinfecting the houses isolating as far as practicable the cases, recommending the inhabitants to boil their milk and putting up posters as to the best way of destroying sputa etc.

Had the managers of the Sunday Schools only given the Sanitary Authority the help they so urgently needed I am sure the epidemic would have been ere this cut short and many lives in all probability saved thereby.

Consequently I have no hesitation in repeating what I said in my last Quarterly report that while this opposition last it impedes the Sanitary authority in their endeavours to prevent suffering & death to the children in our District.

I have the honour to be
Sir
Your obedient servant
Frank. de B. Evans
M. O. H.

Jan. 4th 99